



SAMCollection: The Present is Unstable Opens at SAM on 2 October

Description

Singapore Art Museum (SAM) is opening its most experimental collection presentation to date, and it is one that refuses to sit still. *SAMCollection: The Present is Unstable* opens to the public on 2 October 2026 at SAM at Tanjong Pagar Distripark, with a selection of artworks that rotate over the course of the show.

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THE PRESENT IS UNSTABLE

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SAMCollection: The Present is Unstable runs from 2 October 2026 to 18 July 2027 (Image: Singapore Art Museum)

The exhibition asks a deceptively simple question: how can a museum's collection stay responsive to a world in flux? Rather than settle on one answer, SAM lets the display shift with the times. Visitors encounter a first set of works from 2 October 2026, with a second set introduced from February 2027, giving anyone who returns a genuinely different show the second time round.

An exhibition that changes with the world

The third in a series drawing on the Collection of SAM, *The Present is Unstable* is built around periodic rotation. As works are brought together and later swapped out, fresh connections and juxtapositions surface across the gallery, threading questions from different moments into the world we live in now. Instead of a single fixed narrative, visitors are invited to chart their own path and form their own links between the ideas on show.

Among the opening highlights is Hao Jingban's *I Witness*, a three-channel installation commissioned by the Han Nefkens Foundation, Mori Art Museum, M+, Hong Kong, and SAM. As part of the opening programme, visitors can join a conversation with Hao Jingban and Han Nefkens, alongside a curator-led tour, with further public programmes running throughout the exhibition.

What you need to know

The show runs at Gallery 4, Level 3, SAM at Tanjong Pagar Distripark from 2 October 2026 to 18 July 2027. Admission is under General Admission and is free for Singaporeans and Permanent Residents. If you are planning an arts-filled few months, it pairs well with [National Gallery Singapore's Slow Saturday](#) and the earlier [AstaGuru Indian art exhibition](#). Those who prefer to make their own work can also check out the free [Gallery Sketch drop-in sessions](#).

More details are on the [Singapore Art Museum website](#).

Date Created

08/09/2026

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